

# Microbiological Reviews

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# MICROBIOLOGICAL REVIEWS

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

*Microbiological Reviews* accepts reviews and monographs dealing with all aspects of microbiology and other fields of concern to microbiologists, such as immunology and serology. Authoritative and critical reviews of the current state of knowledge are preferred, although historical analyses will be accepted if the importance of the subject justifies this approach. Unevaluated compilations of the literature and annotated bibliographies do not fall within the scope of *Microbiological Reviews*. Manuscripts of talks delivered at symposia and round tables are likewise unacceptable; however, their authors are encouraged to discuss with the Editor the possibility of using such material as the basis for preparation of a review, when publication in this form seems appropriate. Because a distinctive goal of the journal is to appeal to the interests of the diverse group of subscribers, authors are asked to address themselves to both specialists and generalists; this demands conscious concern for this goal in writing.

Monographs should embody the results of unusually extensive and well-rounded original investigations, the usefulness of which would be diminished by publication in the form of a series of separate papers. Past experience suggests that the monograph is particularly appropriate for the presentation of a definitive study on the biology of a microbial group.

Members of the Editorial Board will welcome any suggestions of topics and authors, either from prospective authors or from others. Prospective authors are advised to discuss with the Editor the suitability of their proposed contribution. The preparation of a synopsis or topical outline is desirable, since it often elicits constructive suggestions from editorial consultants. In addition, a list of key references showing the author's contributions to the field and a one- or two-paragraph statement detailing the aim, scope, and relevance of the topic to be reviewed must be included with the outline. Papers should seldom exceed 60 manuscript text pages and every effort should be made to hold to this limit; any excess will require discussion with the Editor. A review, whether invited or not, cannot be finally accepted until the finished product has been examined and found to be satisfactory.

The editorial style of *Microbiological Reviews* conforms to the *CBE Style Manual* (3rd ed., AIBS, 1972). References should be listed alphabetically according to the last name of the senior author, numbered serially, and cited by number in the text. For example: 136. Salton, M. R. J. 1952. Cell wall of *Micrococcus lysodeikticus* as the substrate of lysozyme. *Nature* (London) 170:746-747. Each reference cited should be checked with the original publication; titles and both first and last pages should be included. References to unpublished data, abstracts, theses, and personal communications should be kept to a minimum; if unavoidable, these citations should be made in the text only, not in the list of references. Names of journals are abbreviated according to *Bibliographic Guide for Editors & Authors* (American Chemical Society, 1974). A table of contents showing the major headings and subheadings of the text is usually desirable; consult recent issues of *Microbiological Reviews* for style. All abbreviations used (except those for standard units of measurement) should be defined parenthetically at first use in the text. Biochemical nomenclature, including abbreviations and symbols, should follow the recommendations of the IUPAC-IUB Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature (CBN) and the Instructions to Authors of *J. Biol. Chem.* and *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* (first issue of each year), which are based upon the CBN Recommendations and contain a list thereof. Reprints of these recommendations and advice on biochemical and chemical nomenclature are available from the NRC Office of Biochemical Nomenclature (W. E. Cohn, Director), Biology Division, Oak Ridge Nat'l. Lab., Box Y, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 (phone: 615-483-8611, ext. 3-7514). Enzyme activities should be expressed in the terms set out in CBN's *Enzyme Nomenclature* (Elsevier Scientific Publishing Co., 1972). Lengths, weights, volumes, and molarities should make use of the prefixes m,  $\mu$ , n, and p (for  $10^{-3}$ ,  $10^{-6}$ ,  $10^{-9}$ , and  $10^{-12}$ , respectively), where applicable, avoiding such compound prefixes as  $m\mu$  and  $\mu\mu$ . Metric units should be employed as much as possible. The Editors reserve the privilege of editing manuscripts to make them conform to the above-mentioned stylistic conventions. Genetics symbols introduced by the reviewer should essentially follow the recommendations of Demerec et al. (*Genetics* 54:61, 1966). As one of the requirements for description of a new species, we require deposition of the type culture in a recognized culture collection and designation of the accession number.

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The minimum annual membership assessment is \$28 which includes a \$3 membership fee, \$4 for subscription to *ASM News*, and \$21 toward 1978 subscriptions to the Society's scientific journals. The Society publishes eight scientific journals (listed below). Members may subscribe to one or more of these journals at special member rates; \$21 of the minimum dues payment of \$28 may be credited towards journal subscriptions. In addition, the Society publishes the monthly *ASM News*, which is sent to all members and contains news and announcements of interest to all microbiologists.

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